

Additional Request for Telephone Interview

The undersigned did not receive a response to his January voicemail request to the Examiner for a telephone interview. Applicant is still interested in a telephone interview, and kindly requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (847) 490-1400 to schedule a telephone interview, to discuss the merits of this Patent Application.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by German Patent document 197 14 839 (the ‘839 Patent). No English language counterpart of the ‘839 Patent exists.

Applicant’s claimed invention includes electrically insulating busbar holders (3) that are arranged transversely with respect to busbars (4). The busbars (4) are seated on a top of the busbar holder (3) facing away from the base section (2.1) in a lower part (3.1) of the holder. The busbars (4) are fixed in place by a screwed top or a snapped on top (3.2).

The commonly-owned ‘839 Patent does not teach or suggest Applicant’s claimed invention. The Office Action appears to identify elements 10.9-10.12 as busbars, and says these elements extend transverse with respect to element 40, identified as a busbar holder. Applicant disagrees with the Office Action’s identification of elements 10.9-10.12 as busbars that are equivalent to Applicant’s recited busbars (4). Elements 10.9-10.12 are separator elements between elements such as 20.2. Furthermore, although elements 10.9-10.12 are covered by top 30, elements 10.9-10.12 are not fixed in place by the top 30, as recited in Applicant’s claimed invention. Elements 10.9-10.12 appear to be integral extensions of

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element 10.1. Thus the combination of elements 10.9-10.12, 30 and 40 does not teach or suggest Applicant's claimed invention.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection. Applicant again requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned by telephone for further discussion.

Conclusion

Applicant intends to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action. If the Examiner detects any issue which the Examiner believes Applicant has not addressed in this response, Applicant's undersigned attorney requests a telephone interview with the Examiner.

Applicant sincerely believes that this Patent Application is now in condition for allowance and, thus, respectfully requests early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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